

In re Appln. of Ohmae et al.
Serial No. Unassigned

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-28 and substitute the following claims therefor.

29. An audiovisual terminal comprising:

a1 entry means through which a viewer of an audiovisual program enters a confirmation code specific to the respective audiovisual program, that is to be transmitted to a principal who authenticates viewing of the program; and

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transmitting means for transmitting to the principal who authenticates
viewing of the program for the viewing confirmation code entered and time
information corresponding to the viewing confirmation code.

30. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the viewing
confirmation code is presented according to a timing specific to the respective
audiovisual program.

31. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the entry
means includes an input interface of a computer, and the time information
corresponding to the viewing confirmation code is obtained from a clock
function of the computer.

32. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the
audiovisual program is a broadcast program.

33. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the
transmitting means transmits the viewing confirmation code after the
audiovisual program is over.

34. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 33, wherein the transmission by the transmitting means is made through a computer-readable medium.

35. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the transmitting means transmits the viewing confirmation code at any time during of the audiovisual program.

36. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, wherein the audiovisual program is provided through a reproducible medium.

37. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 36, wherein, if reproduction of the reproducible medium is interrupted temporarily, the transmitting means transmits a medium interruption code.

38. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, further comprising code presenting means for presenting a viewing confirmation code specific to a respective audiovisual program.

39. A viewing authentication system, wherein time information corresponding to a viewing confirmation code is a time point of entering the viewing confirmation code, the system comprising:

means for calculating an entry time interval of the viewing confirmation code from the entry time point transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29;

means for comparing the entry time interval calculated by the means for calculating with a presentation interval of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presentation interval, within a range.

40. A viewing authentication system comprising:

means for comparing an entry time point of a viewing confirmation code transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, with an elapsed time from a base time, of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if an entry time point is in agreement with the elapsed time, within a range.

41. A viewing authentication system comprising:

a program viewing result file for storing a viewing confirmation code transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29;

program authentication pattern storage means for storing a program authentication pattern presented on the audiovisual terminal;

means for comparing the viewing confirmation code stored in the program viewing result file with a program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code and stored in the program authentication pattern storage means; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the viewing confirmation code stored is in agreement with the program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code.

42. A viewing authentication system wherein time information corresponding to a viewing confirmation code is a time interval for entering the viewing confirmation code, the system comprising:

means for comparing the entry time interval transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 29, with a presentation interval of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presentation interval, within a range.

43. An audiovisual terminal comprising:

means through which a viewer of an audiovisual program enters a confirmation code specific to the respective audiovisual program, that is to be transmitted to a principal who authenticates viewing of the program;

means for storing the viewing confirmation code entered and time information corresponding to the viewing confirmation code; and

means for transmitting, after ending of the audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code and the time information from the means for storing and corresponding to the viewing confirmation code, to the principal.

44. The audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43, further comprising code presenting means for presenting a viewing confirmation code specific to a respective audiovisual program.

45. A viewing authentication system, wherein time information corresponding to a viewing confirmation code is a time point of entering the viewing confirmation code, the system comprising:

means for calculating an entry time interval of the viewing confirmation code from the entry time point transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43;

means for comparing the entry time interval calculated by the means for calculating with a presentation interval of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presentation interval, within a range.

46. The viewing authentication system as recited in claim 45, wherein the means for determining scores based on a comparison carried out by the means for comparing.

47. A viewing authentication system comprising:

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means for comparing an entry time point of a viewing confirmation code transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43, with an elapsed time from a base time, of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if an entry time point is in agreement with the elapsed time, within a range.

48. A viewing authentication system comprising:

a program viewing result file for storing a viewing confirmation code transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43;

program authentication pattern storage means for storing a program authentication pattern presented on the audiovisual terminal;

means for comparing the viewing confirmation code stored in the program viewing result file with a program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code and stored in the program authentication pattern storage means; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the viewing confirmation code stored is in agreement with the program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code.

49. A viewing authentication system wherein time information corresponding to a viewing confirmation code is a time interval for entering the viewing confirmation code, the system comprising:

means for comparing the entry time interval transmitted from the audiovisual terminal as recited in claim 43, with a presentation interval of the viewing confirmation code presented on the audiovisual terminal; and

means for determining, from the means for comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presentation interval, within a range.

50. A viewing authentication system comprising:

means for receiving transmission of a viewing confirmation code peculiar to a presented audiovisual program, the viewing confirmation code being entered at a terminal on a viewer side for viewing the presented audiovisual program; and

means for storing the viewing confirmation code received and one of a time point corresponding to the viewing confirmation code and the time interval between receipt time points when the viewing confirmation code is received, wherein the viewing confirmation code is presented with a timing specific to the audiovisual program.

51. A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising :

providing an audiovisual program;
presenting a viewing confirmation code specific to the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, wherein the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer; and

receiving from the audiovisual terminal a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code entered and time information corresponding to the viewing confirmation code entered.

52. A remote education method wherein,
audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and
viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication
method as recited in claim 51.

53. A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program
comprising :
providing an audiovisual program;
presenting a viewing confirmation code specific to the respective
audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, wherein the
viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by
the viewer and the viewing confirmation code entered and time information
corresponding thereto are stored in an audiovisual terminal; and
receiving the viewing confirmation code stored and the time information
corresponding thereto transmitted from the audiovisual terminal after ending of
the audiovisual program.

54. A remote education method wherein,
audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and
viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication
method as recited in claim 53.

55. A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program
comprising :
providing an audiovisual program;
presenting a viewing confirmation code specific to the respective
audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, wherein the
viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by
the viewer;

receiving a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code
entered and an entry time point of the viewing confirmation code from the
audiovisual terminal;

calculating an entry time interval of the viewing confirmation code from
the entry time point transmitted from the audiovisual terminal;

comparing the entry time interval calculated with a presented interval of the
viewing confirmation code; and

determining that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the interval of the viewing confirmation code, within a range.

56. A remote education method wherein,
audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and
viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 55.

57. A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising :
providing an audiovisual program;
presenting a viewing confirmation code specific to the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, wherein the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer;

receiving a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code entered and an entry time point of the viewing confirmation code from the audiovisual terminal;

comparing the entry time point of the viewing confirmation codes transmitted with an elapsed time from a base time of the viewing confirmation code presented; and

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determining, from the comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time point is in agreement with the elapsed time, within a range.

58. A remote education method wherein,
audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and
viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 57.

59. A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising :

providing an audiovisual program;
presenting a viewing confirmation code specific to the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, wherein the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer;

receiving a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code entered and an entry time point of the viewing confirmation code from the audiovisual terminal;

storing the viewing confirmation code transmitted in a program viewing result file;

storing a program authentication pattern formed by the viewing confirmation code presented in program authentication pattern storage means;

comparing the authentication pattern formed by the viewing confirmation code stored in the program viewing result file with the program authentication pattern stored in the program authentication pattern storage means; and

determining, from the comparison means, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the authentication pattern formed by the viewing confirmation code stored in the program viewing result file is in agreement with the program authentication pattern corresponding to the viewing confirmation code.

60. A remote education method wherein,
audiovisual programs for education are provided to learners; and
viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication
method as recited in claim 59.

61. A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program
comprising :
providing an audiovisual program;
presenting a viewing confirmation code specific to the respective
audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, wherein the
viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by
the viewer;

receiving a transmission with respect to the viewing confirmation code
entered and an entry time interval of the viewing confirmation code calculated
based on the entry time point of the viewing confirmation code from the
audiovisual terminal;

comparing the entry time interval transmitted and a presented time interval
of the viewing confirmation code presented; and

determining, from the comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective broadcast program if the entry time interval is in agreement with the presented interval.

62. A remote education method wherein,
the audiovisual programs is one f or education provided to learners; and
the viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication method as recited in claim 61.

63. A method of authenticating viewing of an audiovisual program comprising :
providing an audiovisual program;
presenting a viewing confirmation code specific to the respective audiovisual program to a viewer of the audiovisual program, wherein the viewing confirmation code presented is entered into an audiovisual terminal by the viewer;

receiving the confirmation code entered from the audiovisual terminal;
comparing the viewing confirmation code received and one of a receipt time point of the viewing confirmation code and a time interval of a receipt time, calculated based on the receipt time point of the viewing confirmation

code, with a presented time interval of the viewing confirmation code presented;
and

determining, from the comparing, that the viewer is viewing a respective
broadcast program if the receipt time point is in agreement with the presented
time interval.

64. A remote education method wherein,
the audiovisual programs is one for education provided to
learners; and
the viewing by the learners is authenticated with the viewing authentication
method as recited in claim 63.

65. A recording medium readable with an audiovisual terminal and having
a program stored thereon for controlling the audiovisual terminal to receive a
presented viewing confirmation code specific to a respective audiovisual
program entered in the audiovisual terminal for transmission to a viewing
authentication principal and to transmit the viewing confirmation code received
and time information corresponding to the viewing confirmation code to the
viewing authentication principal.

66. A recording medium readable with an audiovisual terminal and having a program stored thereon for controlling the audiovisual terminal to receive a presented viewing confirmation code specific to a respective audiovisual program entered in the audiovisual terminal for transmission to the viewing authentication principal, to store the viewing confirmation code entered and time information corresponding to the viewing confirmation, and to transmit the viewing confirmation code entered to the viewing authenticating principal.

67. A recording medium readable with an audiovisual terminal and having a program stored thereon for controlling the audiovisual terminal to receive a presented viewing confirmation code specific to a respective audiovisual program entered in the audiovisual terminal, for transmission to a viewing authentication principal and to transmit the viewing confirmation code entered to the viewing authentication principal.

IN THE ABSTRACT

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Please replace the existing Abstract of the Disclosure with the appended Abstract of the Disclosure.